

§ 948.1

948.25 Approval of West Virginia abandoned mine land reclamation plan amendments.

948.26 Required abandoned mine land reclamation program/plan amendments. [Reserved]

948.30 State-Federal Cooperative Agreement.

AUTHORITY: 30 U.S.C. 1201 *et seq.*

§ 948.1 Scope.

This part contains all rules applicable only within West Virginia that have been adopted under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

[46 FR 5954, Jan. 21, 1981]

§ 948.10 State regulatory program approval.

The West Virginia State program, as submitted on March 3, 1980, as clarified on July 16, 1980, and as resubmitted on December 19, 1980, is conditionally approved, effective January 21, 1981. Beginning on that date and continuing until July 11, 1985, the Department of Natural Resources was deemed the regulatory authority in West Virginia for all surface coal mining and reclamation operations and all exploration operations on non-Federal and non-Indian lands. Beginning on July 11, 1985, the Department of Energy shall be deemed the regulatory authority, pursuant to the program transfer provisions of the Enrolled Committee Substitute for House Bill 1850 as signed by the Governor of West Virginia on May 3, 1985.

Copies of the conditionally approved program, as amended, are available at:

(a) Office of Surface Mining, Charleston Field Office, 603 Morris Street, Charleston, West Virginia 25301. Telephone: (304) 347-7158.

(b) West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection, 10 McJunkin Road, Nitro, West Virginia 25143.

[50 FR 28323, July 11, 1985, as amended at 59 FR 17931, Apr. 15, 1994]

§ 948.12 State statutory, regulatory, and proposed program amendment provisions not approved.

(a) We are not approving the following provisions of the proposed program amendment that West Virginia submitted on May 11, 1998:

(1) CSR 38-2-3.14, to the extent that it could be interpreted as applying to the on-site reprocessing of abandoned coal mine waste piles or to the extent that it would apply to the removal of abandoned coal refuse piles where, on average, the material to be removed meets the definition of coal in 30 CFR 700.5.

(2) CSR 38-2-3.32.g., which concerns unanticipated events or conditions.

(3) CSR 38-2-14.14.a.1., which concerns placement of excess spoil outside the permit area.

(4) CSR 38-2-23, which concerns coal extraction as part of land development activities.

(5) CSR 38-2-24.4, which concerns water quality standards for bond release.

(b)-(d) [Reserved]

(e) Section 22A-3-23(c)(3) of the Code of West Virginia is found inconsistent with Section 519(c)(3) of SMCRA to the extent that it states: "Provided, however, That such a release may be made where the quality of the untreated postmining water discharged is better than or equal to the premining water quality discharged from the mining site."

(f) Section 22A-3-12(e) of the Code of West Virginia is found inconsistent with Section 515(e) of SMCRA.

(g)-(i) [Reserved]

[48 FR 52053, Nov. 16, 1983, as amended at 50 FR 28323 and 28342, July 11, 1985; 55 FR 21337, May 23, 1990; 61 FR 6535, Feb. 21, 1996; 65 FR 26135, May 5, 2000]

§ 948.13 State statutory and regulatory provisions set aside.

(a)-(b) [Reserved]

(c) The following wording in section 22A-3-23(c)(3) of the Code of West Virginia is inconsistent with section 519(c)(3) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 and is hereby set aside:

Provided, however, That such a release may be made where the quality of the untreated postmining water discharged is better than or equal to the premining water quality discharged from the mining site.

(d) Section 22A-3-12(e) of the Code of West Virginia is inconsistent with section 515(e) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 and is hereby set aside in its entirety.